



# Virginia Green Hotels & Lodging Facilities



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## Apple Tree Bed & Breakfast Year Around Damascus, VA



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**Virginia Green** is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green** has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, **Virginia Green** encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations, and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

## Apple Tree Bed & Breakfast Year Around

We are a Bed and Breakfast. All rooms have private bathrooms, full breakfast, and ample parking for vehicles. We suggest to our guests to walk to all in-town shops and restaurants rather than taking their vehicles.

We want to be a service to the community; setting an example - one can be a small business and yet be efficient and limit the impact on the world.

Most foods used in the kitchen are grown in our garden or purchased from local farmers. We discuss the values of unplugging unused electric devices (curling irons, blow dryers, cell phone chargers). We also have power strips in each room to unnecessary equipment - tv/dvd players - and turn them off when guests are not occupying the rooms.

For more 'green' specific information : [www.appletreebnb.com](http://www.appletreebnb.com)

### Virginia Green Activities

#### This facility pledges that they:

##### Offer optional linen service

- Change linens only upon request
- Train housekeeping staff on our process for optional linen service
- Purchase water- and energy-efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents

- Minimize the use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Line dry linens whenever possible
- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures

## Recycle

- Have in place clearly marked recycling bins or provide convenient drop-off locations for guests to recycle:

- Aluminum cans
- Plastic Bottles
- Office paper

### Other items recycled by the facility:

- Printer/ copy machine toner cartridges
- Newspaper
- Fluorescent lamps
- Electronics equipment such as computers, etc.
- Other Activities: do not subscribe to newspapers; recycle magazines

## Reduce solid waste

- Use bulk soap dispensers instead of individual soaps/shampoos in guest rooms
- Use refillable shampoo bottles rather than single-use bottles
- Instruct housekeeping staff to save and reuse unopened items
- Donate excess food from events
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Have an effective food inventory control system to minimize waste
- Use disposable foodservice items that are made from renewable materials (not petroleum-based)
- Use disposable foodservice items that are made from recycled content
- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable (in your area!)
- Use and compost disposable containers made of compostable material (corn, bamboo, potato starch, sugarcane, etc.)
- Use cloth napkins
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet paper
- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex low or no-VOC paints
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents

- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

### **Use water efficiently**

- Track overall water usage and wastewater costs
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
- Have installed low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)
- Use microfiber technology mops
- Have minimized our lawn area
- Have minimized impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)
- Have installed rain barrels
- Other Activities: composted material in flower bed/vegetable gardens/herb garden

### **Conserve energy**

- Track overall energy bills
- Have had an energy audit to identify efficiency opportunities within the past 12 months
- Calculate the environmental impacts of the facility's energy usage by using a pollution calculator
- Use ENERGY STARs Benchmarking Tools for the Hospitality Industry
- Have installed ceiling fans
- Have installed ENERGY STAR-rated windows and doors
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have installed a high efficiency HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on
- Use natural lighting (i.e., open draperies and raise shades whenever adequate light from windows is available)
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T-5 and T-8)
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and canned lighting
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Use ENERGY STAR qualified appliances (commercial kitchens, heating and cooling, consumer electronics)
- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used
- Use alternative fuel, hybrid-electric, or electric vehicles

### **Offer a green events package**

- Include the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages (see the factsheet on Environmentally-Responsible Conferences & Events)



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For more information on **Apple Tree Bed & Breakfast Year Around**, see [www.appletreebnb.com](http://www.appletreebnb.com) or contact Deborah Smith at [info@appletreebnb.com](mailto:info@appletreebnb.com) or 276-475-5261.

For more information on the Virginia Green program, see [www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen).



**Virginia Green** is a partnership supported by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Tourism Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

